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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/507,172	02/18/2000	Robert D. Tolles	3600.0881-D5	9356

7590

05/09/2002

Applied Materials Inc
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EXAMINER

ELEY, TIMOTHY V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3724

DATE MAILED: 05/09/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/507,172

Applicant(s)

TOLLES ET AL.

Examiner

Timothy V Eley

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 12-18, 28 and 32-35 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 29-31, 36 and 37 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 8-11, 19-26 and 28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C.

112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 8-11, 19-26, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

✓ a. In claim 8, lines 7 and 8, "threaded . . . screws" is awkwardly worded. Apparently, --of-- should be inserted after "ones".

b. The following phrases in the claims lack proper antecedent basis since they were not properly earlier referred to:

✓ i. "said polishing surface" (claim 11, line 3). Which polishing surface?

✓ ii. "said carousel" (claim 19, line 6).

✓ iii. "said selected polishing surfaces" (claim 19, line 7).

✓ iv. "said head" (claim 24, line 2).

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morgan, III et al in view of Gill Jr. '180 et al.

a. Morgan, III discloses a polishing apparatus comprising: a rotatable member rotatable about a first axis; a polishing surface arranged at an angular position about the first axis; at least one substrate head assembly supported on the rotatable member and capable of supporting thereon a substrate in contact with the polishing surface and affording relative linear movement between the polishing surface and the substrate head assembly while the substrate supported on the substrate head is engaged with the polishing surface. See specifically figures 1 and 2.

b. Morgan, III does not disclose at least two polishing surfaces arranged at respective angular positions about the first axis.

c. Gill, Jr. '180 et al disclose two polishing surface arranged at respective angular positions about a first axis of a

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rotatable member, the polishing surfaces being usable in sequence.

d. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the Morgan, III apparatus by providing at least two polishing surfaces arranged at respective angular positions about the first axis of the rotatable member as taught by Gill, Jr. et al, in order to polish a workpiece in sequence.

5. Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morgan, III et al in view of Gill Jr. '180 et al as applied to claims 1- 3 above, and further in view of Gill Jr. '854

a. Morgan, III is explained above.

b. Morgan, III does not disclose the substrate head assembly comprising at least two substrate head assemblies.

c. Gill Jr. '854 discloses two substrate head assemblies for holding respective substrates for allow greater output of the apparatus.

d. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have further modified the Morgan, III et al apparatus by providing at least two substrate head assemblies for holding respective substrates for allow greater output of the apparatus as taught by Gill Jr. '854.

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Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 6 and 7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 8-11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. Claims 19-26, and 28 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

9. Claims 29-31, 36, and 37 are allowed.

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy V Eley whose telephone number is 703-308-1824. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan N Shoap can be reached on 703-308-1082. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this

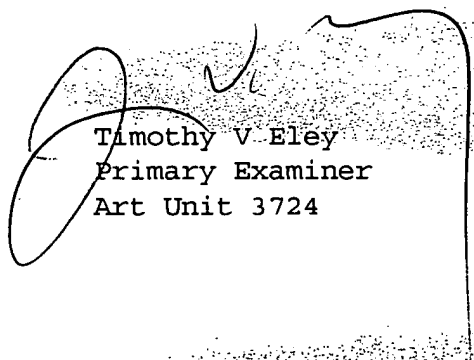
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application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305- 3579 for regular communications and 703- 305-3588 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1148.


Timothy V. Eley
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3724

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May 2, 2002